

**Question for written answer E-005304/2021**

**to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**

Rule 138

**Antoni Comín i Oliveres (NI), Carles Puigdemont i Casamajó (NI), Clara Ponsatí Obiols (NI)**

Subject: Spain-Turkey military cooperation

On 17 November 2021, Spanish Prime Minister Sánchez and Turkish President Erdoğan issued a joint statement<sup>1</sup> following the seventh Turkey-Spain intergovernmental summit, in which both countries agreed to deepen their partnership on shared military programmes. This includes the development of a landing helicopter dock programme, unmanned systems, space satellite capabilities and naval assets.

In the Eastern Mediterranean Turkey is engaging in expansionist and hostile behaviour towards EU Member States, in particular Greece and Cyprus, and is challenging the exclusive economic zones (EEZ) regime laid down in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

In the light of paragraph 12 of the statement of the Members of the European Council of 25 March 2021<sup>2</sup>, of Parliament's resolution of 19 May 2021 on the 2019-2020 Commission Reports on Turkey<sup>3</sup> and of Article 32 of the Treaty on European Union:

1. Does the VP/HR consider that military programmes not agreed at the EU level could contribute to jeopardising Member States's national security and could cast doubt on their mutual solidarity commitments ?
2. How does the Commission view the fact that such military capabilities can be used in actions that blatantly violate international law, such as the illegal drilling activities in Cyprus's EEZ?

---

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/presidente/actividades/Documents/2021/171121-%20Declaraci%C3%B3n\\_VII\\_CumbreHispano-Turca.pdf](https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/presidente/actividades/Documents/2021/171121-%20Declaraci%C3%B3n_VII_CumbreHispano-Turca.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/48976/250321-vtc-euco-statement-en.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Texts adopted, P9\_TA(2021)0243.